



HUGE UFO EMERGES FROM SEA NEAR OIL RIG

The following report was posted on the Internet by Ben Field of *UFO Updates*, Toronto, Canada, on 14 January 1998, and was reprinted in the April 1998 issue of *The Star Beacon*.

Permission to publish report: Yes
 Name: Jeremy Clark Packer
 Age: 32
 Occupation: Engineer
 Date of sighting: Monday, (?)
 December 1997
 Time of sighting: 8:00 am
 Location of sighting: Corpus Christi, Texas
 Description of area: Oil platform, 30 miles from shore off Gulf of Mexico. No land masses, no clouds, heavy wind, several liners. 500-manned rig.
 Other witnesses? Yes
 Relationship of witnesses: Co-workers
 The UFO was sighted in or near water. The UFO was sighted in or near an air route. The height of the UFO from the ground was about 280-300 feet above sea.
 Noise information heard during the sighting: Rumbling sound for most of the sighting. Our watches stopped working!

The UFO was sighted for 30 minutes. Photographic record? Yes
 Did you experience any effects, i.e., loss of time? Yes. All our watches showed 30 minutes late.
 Weather and conditions: Windy weather, cold. Daylight.

Jeremy Packer's description of this UFO sighting follows:

I had just woken up for our daily routine on the rig. Our sleeping quarters were below sea level, so we all had to trudge [sic.] up to the main core housing to start work. It was about 7.58 to 8.00.

My watch stopped ticking at 7.58, but I

don't know if my time was right. Everyone else's watch stopped ticking as well, with various times.

As I and about 20 other men neared our stations to perform the daily greasing and releasing routine, we stopped cold in our tracks. The bore that drills the hole into the ocean floor was bent like a toothpick into a V shape.

We looked at the underwater cameras to recheck what our eyes saw and we couldn't believe.

First off, this bore is 140.65 feet thick, made of solid steel. Nothing can bend it, let alone something on the ocean floor—and it wasn't even on the ocean floor! It



THE TWILIGHT ZONE

was just right below the surface of the water, about 200 feet—the amount of pressure it would take would be equal to the Sun's force.

We were dumbfounded. Then we got scared! Everyone started hearing a rumbling noise and we knew it wasn't the engines running the platform bore. Everything shuts off when something goes wrong.

Out of the west we saw what looked to be about 25 to 30 helicopters on manoeuvres—not an uncommon sight. What was uncommon was that the rig commander came up and told us he had no alerts to any military manoeuvres from the Coast Guard that day. They usually alert us whenever they do these things in our vicinity. Another peculiar thing was that the helicopters made no sounds. None. Zip!

Then we all ran to the west side of the platform—about 250 of us, in all. The others were below sleeping; they have the night shift. Then we saw something that totally changed us! All of the helicopters stopped in mid-air, and something large—*very large*—surfaced beneath them.

It was a *huge* metal object, about the size of our platform! It just came straight out of the water and straight into the air! It hovered over the helicopters for about two minutes—enough for us to use the telescopes to check it out!

It was as large as about two football

fields, concave underneath, with four large bulbous domes in the concave part of the bottom of it.

It turned on its side and we saw that it looked like a huge flying cigar which was tapered at both ends. On the top of the thing was another concave indent that had lights circling within in—every colour you could possibly imagine! It was beautiful! We heard the soft rumbling all throughout the sighting.

Then something amazing happened as we stood there in disbelief. Like someone turning off a light switch, it was gone. One second we were all looking through binoculars, telescopes and through just our eyes. Hell, it was close enough you didn't need the devices! Then it was gone. I would say, in as fast as you could blink, or a light switch would turn on and off a light, it was gone.

The helicopters headed our way and passed us overhead, again never making a sound. We could see that they had absolutely no markings. Familiar with the stuff the military does around here, we knew they weren't military craft. Some looked like they were stainless steel, almost invisible; some were jet black. I counted 22. My best friend counted 28. Everyone had a different amount.

We all also noticed that our watches were about 30 minutes later than what the time actually was when we got back to the

mainland. We were sent on temporary leave by our bosses for what we reported, so that they could fix/repair/replace the bore on the rig.

I'm back at work now, but I still look out at the ocean every chance I get!

(Source: The Star Beacon newsletter, April 1998; Earth Star Publications, PO Box 117, Paonia, CO 81428-0117; web site, www.galaxycorp.com/starbeacon. Subscription, 12 issues: US\$20 in US; US\$28 overseas.)

CONTROVERSY CONTINUES OVER ARTIFICIAL LANDFORMS ON MARS

As promised, the Mars Global Surveyor (MGS) once again turned its high-resolution camera towards the controversial landforms at Cydonia on 23 April and delivered a clear, well-lit image of the "Main Pyramid" and "City Square", two features of considerable interest to Cydonia researchers.

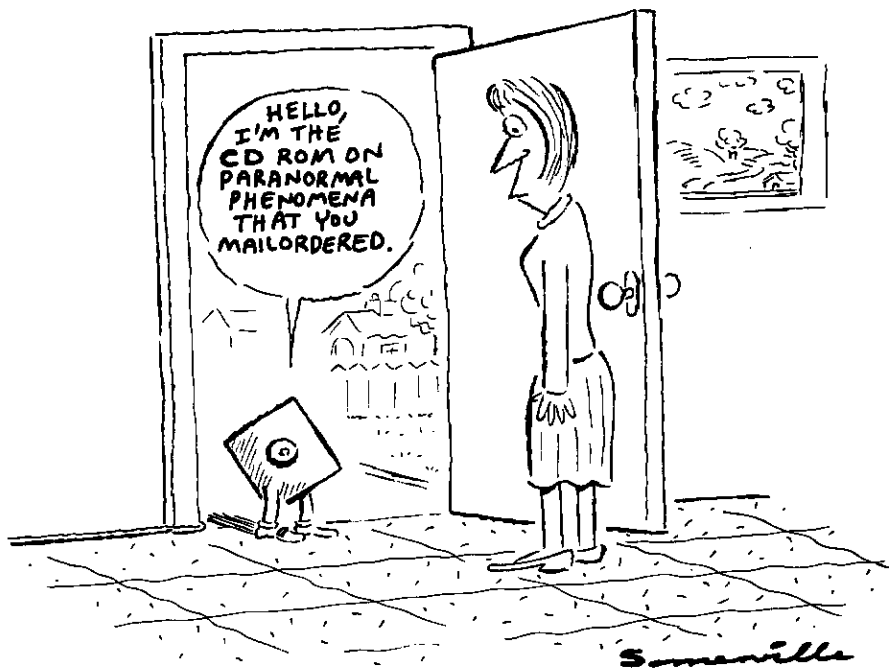
However, the MGS camera failed to capture the "Fortress" which lies slightly northeast of the main pyramid. After the "Face", the Fortress was the object of greatest interest to those who believe the landforms at Cydonia may be artificially constructed.

Having now fulfilled a promise to make three imaging attempts over Cydonia during the month of April, NASA has no further plans to photograph the area until 1999. But NASA chief administrator Daniel Goldin told CNN science correspondent John Holliman that the MGS would, in due course, send back more pictures of the Cydonia region "until everyone is satisfied".

Depending upon whom one asks, the new Cydonia images show nothing but obviously natural geological features; or they offer strong corroborating evidence of artificial structures; or they prove nothing one way or another.

Professor Stanley V. McDaniel of the Society for Planetary SETI Research, one of the strongest proponents of possible artificial structures on Mars, indicated in an essay posted on his website (www.mcdanielreport.com/) that the latest image of the City shows features that "appear consistent with a natural geological interpretation".

Professor McDaniel pointed out that the four small mounds comprising the City Square, which in the 1976 Viking photo



appear highly regular, are seen in the much clearer MGS image to be non-uniform in shape and non-symmetrical in placement.

Similarly, the large Main Pyramid has the appearance of a small mountain, not a large building.

Many voices echoed this assessment. Typical was a statement issued by David Watanabe of exoScience UFO (exosci.com/ufo/), who wrote: "I think all can agree that the images returned by MGS show no signs of artificiality. These formations are, as far as we can tell through visual observation, quite natural."

McDaniel, however, noted several odd, smaller features on the Pyramid that seem more angular and symmetrical than expected of natural formations. "There is a peculiar feature at the NE corner of the [Pyramid] that should demand geological investigation. This is a cluster of two or perhaps three nearly rectangular outlines that may be enclosures of some sort," McDaniel stated.

Another nearby object has the distinct appearance of a nearly perfect square inside a very circular crater.

Meanwhile, other Cydonia researchers were not at all ready to admit disappointment. Richard Hoagland, who had earlier accused NASA of withholding data when the space agency released the first MGS image of the Face, now says that the structures in the third image offer impressive evidence of artificiality.

"Early enhancement of MGS image 25803 reveals multi-layered 'room-sized' cells underneath the long-eroded surface of the 'Main Pyramid,'" Hoagland states at his Internet website (enterprisemission.com/images/mars). Furthermore, he theorises that "The latest MGS image reveals the center of the Cydonia complex—the 'City Square'—to be a series of four high-tech, glass-like pyramids...heavily in ruins".

While no other Cydonia researcher seems ready to join Hoagland in this degree of enthusiastic speculation on the City features, physicist Dr Tom Van Flandern issued a statement last week in which he stated that the new MGS image of the Face—disappointing to many—has convinced him beyond reasonable doubt that that structure is artificial.

Thus, the debate goes on. Certainly the MGS images did not deliver the kind of evidence that Cydonia researchers had hoped for and that many had expected. On the other hand, neither did those images

entirely dismiss the theory of artificial structures at Cydonia.

Indeed, further scrutiny may tend to bolster the hopes of the more cautious researchers such as Professor Stanley McDaniel and Dr Mark Carlotto. That, and whatever new evidence may come in 1999, remains to be seen.

(Source: *CNI News*, vol. 4, no. 5, Part 1, 1 May 1998; e-mail, CNINews1@aol.com)

VATICAN INTEREST IN EXTRATERRESTRIAL CONTACT

Monsignor Corrado Balducci, a Vatican theologian and insider close to the Pope, has gone on Italian national television five times in recent months to proclaim that extraterrestrial contact is a real phenomenon.

The prelate announced that the Vatican is receiving much information about extraterrestrials and their contacts with humans from its nuncios (papal ambassadors) in various countries such as Chile, Mexico and Venezuela.

Monsignor Balducci said that he is on a Vatican commission looking into extraterrestrial encounters and how to cope with the emerging general awareness of the reality of extraterrestrial contact.

Balducci provided the Catholic Church's analysis of extraterrestrials, emphasising that extraterrestrial encounters "are *not* demonic, they are *not* due to psychological impairment, they are *not* a case of entity attachment, but these encounters deserve to be studied carefully".

Since Monsignor Balducci is a Vatican expert exorcist, and since

the Catholic Church has historically demonised many new phenomena that were poorly understood, his proclaiming the Vatican's non-censure of these encounters is all the more remarkable.

Balducci revealed to a visiting American clinical professional from the Academy of Clinical Close Encounter Therapists that the Vatican is closely following this phenomenon.

Parallel information from MJ-12 scientist Dr Michael Wolf suggests that the Vatican is concerned that it will have a major doctrinal updating situation on its hands when extraterrestrial contact becomes authoritatively announced by world governments over the next several years.

(Source: *Forwarded by Richard Boylan, PhD, LLC, 2826 O Street, Suite 2, Sacramento, CA 95816, USA; telephone (916) 455 0120; e-mail, rich.boylan@24stex.com*)

